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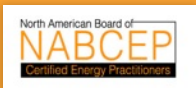
PV Installer Certification

Ezra Auerbach, Executive Director

NABCEP

*Illinois Commerce Commission
Workshop/Conference Call*

Distributed Energy Rule Making Docket No. 12-0213

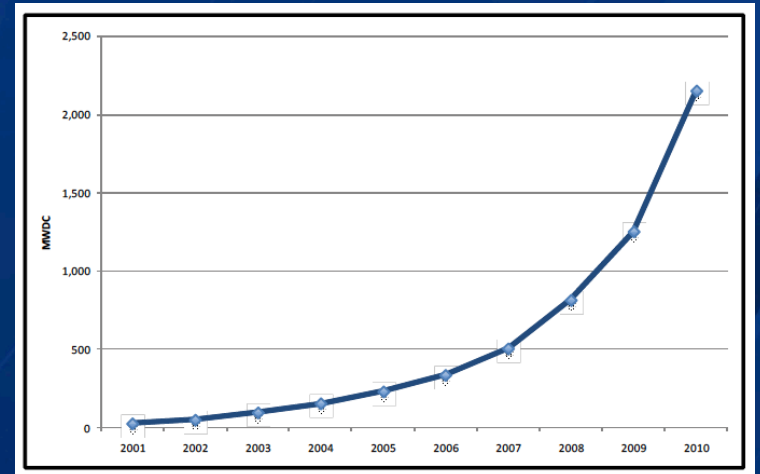


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The growth of the PV industry in the US has been nothing short of phenomenal – this table is illustrative of the increase in installed capacity.

Cumulative US Grid Tie PV Installations
(source US Solar Market Trends IREC)



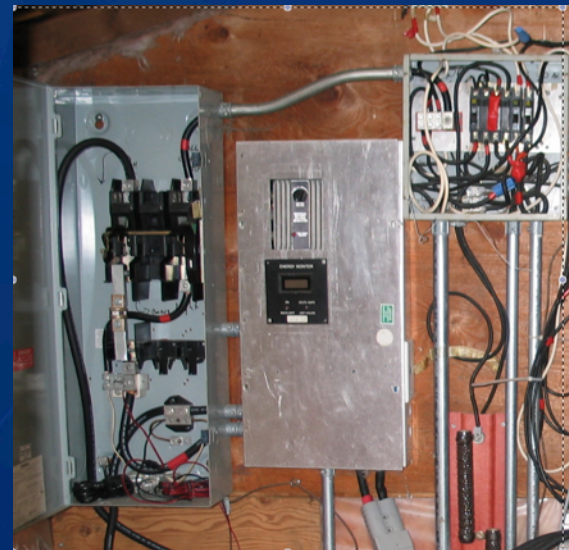
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This type of growth prompts a responsible industry to look within for quality assurance.



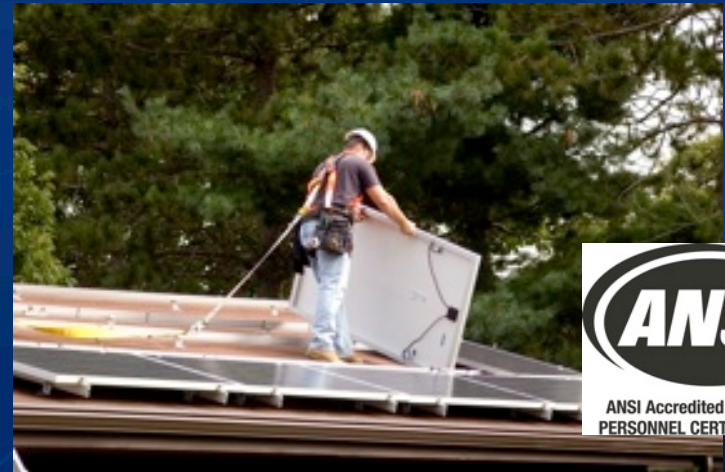
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It was clear to the founders of NABCEP that our rapidly emerging solar industry could fail under the weight of poor installations.



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They decided to develop and
implement quality credentialing
and certification programs for
Renewable
Energy (RE)
practitioners.



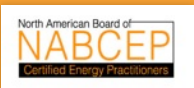
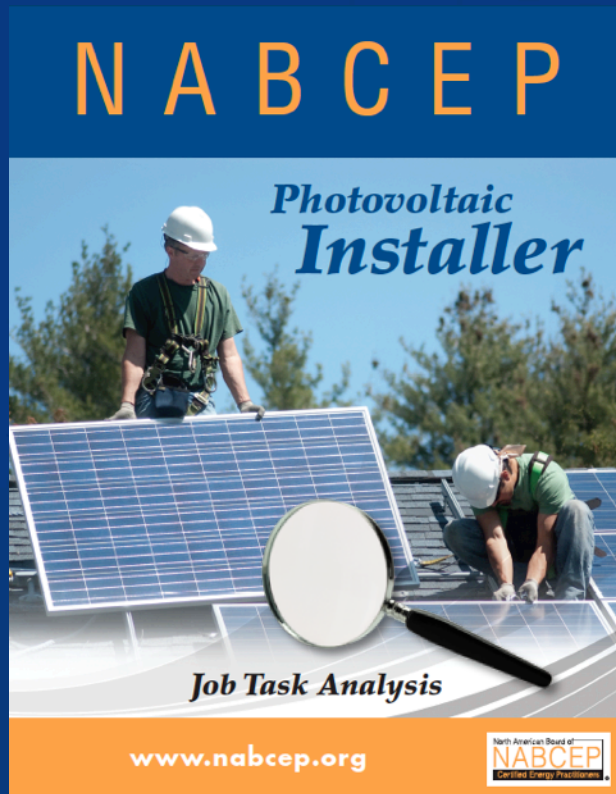
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The core of NABCEP Certifications is the Job Task Analysis.

It describes in detail the
every-day job of the
Installer and is developed
by real-world practitioners.



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The PV Installer JTA covers a multi-craft range of skills and knowledge.

Content Domains and Examination Specifications

Content Domain	Percentage of Examination
Verify System Design	30%
Managing the Project	17%
Installing Electrical Components	22%
Installing Mechanical Components	8%
Completing System Installation	12%
Conducting Maintenance and Troubleshooting Activities	11%

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Certificants use: electrical, carpentry, metal working and roofing skills.

They are also required to be able to perform complex calculations when verifying or adapting system designs.

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PV Installer Certification is aimed at people who are responsible for the PV installation process.

- They must be capable of adapting designs to meet site conditions, lead the crew, know the NEC and how to trouble shoot problems.

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PV Installers come from a diverse range of backgrounds, including

- Electricians
- Roofing Contractors
- Builders
- Engineers

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The PV Installer Exam provides a way to test a variety of skilled trades people and other practitioners on the specific and unique knowledge requirements set forth in the JTA



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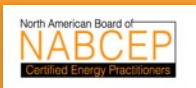
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NABCEP Certifications are the most widely sought after and respected credentials in the renewable energy industry.



SAMPLE

They are hard to attain.



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All applicants need to show that they have completed a program of advanced training covering the Job Task Analysis.

They also have to show that they have experience as the lead on at least three PV Installations.

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NABCEP is a requirement or encouraged by more than 30% of state incentive programs.

“NABCEP provides services that are absolutely essential for the growth of the clean energy economy.”



Francis J Murray, President & CEO NYSERDA

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“Systems installed by NABCEP certified installers have fewer problems at the time of inspection than those installed by non-certified installers.”



PV Workforce Development and the Market for Customer-Sited PV.
McRae et al. ASES 2008



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Many jurisdictions have adopted models that call for a combination of trade qualification and Certification as a prerequisite to receive public benefit or other incentive funds.

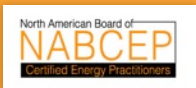


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These policies generally have allowed for a limited number of installations to be preformed by installers before certification is attained.



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